pleased to state:

(a) what is the minimum level of investment involved in power projects that are submitted to Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for its scrutiny;

(b) what are the considerations for the requirement of power project authorities in States and Centre to seek approval from CEA for new power projects;

(c) what types of approvals, apart from techno-economic, are issued by CEA; and

(d) what are the projects including names, capacity, proposed investment and source of finance, location, concerned authority resource base of each project currently being examined by CEA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) Every scheme estimated to involve a capital expenditure exceeding Rs. 5 crores is statutorily required to be submitted to the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for their concurrence. In respect of Power Schemes costing less than Rs. 5 crores only the details of the schemes have to be given to the CEA after their sanction by the State Authorities.

(b) Techno-economic appraisal of a scheme is carried out by the CEA to ensure that the scheme is consistent with the overall objectives of power development and represents the optimal option for meeting the requirements of power in the time frame envisaged in the project report. In this connection, the CEA and Central Water Commission (CWC) have circulated guidelines for investigation and preparation of feasibility and detailed project reports to the State Electricity Boards, State Governments and the Project Authorities.

(c) No other approvals apart from techno-economic are given by the CEA, for the implementation of power projects.

(d) Information in regard to the names, proposed capacity, location and estimated cost of the projects, which are under techno-economic examination in the CEA is given in the attached statement [*See* Appendix CXLIX, Annexure 114]. The source of financing, Plan allocations etc. are decided after investment approval is accorded to the projects by the Planning Commission/Government.

Use of Foreign Exchange by NTPC AND NHPC

2065. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign exchange spendings by National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) have gone up over the years while the country is faced with severe foreign exchange problems;

(b) what are the names of the foreign firms at present in service of both the companies and the scope and quantum of business including value of each order being handled by each foreign company; and

(c) what is the amount of foreign exchange outgo from the country involved in each deal and the date by when the contract is likely to ends?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) While the utilisation of foreign exchange by NTPC has gone up, there has been a reduction in the utilisation of foreign exchange, by NHPC during the last three years.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Orders by NTPC and NHPC

2066 SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that untendered major orders were issued by National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC);

(b) if so, what is the contract value, scope and nature of work, party's name, job completion period involved in each order worth above rupee one crore issued by NTPC and NHPC under execution at present; and

(c) which of these deals are untendered and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI) : (a) to (c) Both National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) award contracts to public sector undertakings such as National Projects Construction Corporation (NPCC) and Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL) on an untendered basis after direct negotiations. Details of the untendered contracts under execution are as per the enclosed statement. [*See* Appendix CXLIX, Annexure No 115] Information in respect of the job completion period for the NTPC contracts is being collected.

Sale of drugs by IDPL

2067. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2940 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th December, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it was obligatory under DPCO, 1979 for drug/ companies to get price approval for imported drugs before their sale;

(b) if so, what are the reasons that IDPL did not take price approval and how did overcharge the price of imported drugs and sold them without price approval;

(c) when was such activities came to the notice of the department and what action was taken by Govt. to serve a notice on IDPL;

(d) what is the present position and how his Ministry is resorting to indirect canalisation, and

(e) what steps have been taken to fix the responsibility and how far such activities are in accordance with the objectives under which IDPL was set up?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (e) The required details, to the extent available, will be collected and laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

Procedure for the Recovery of Illegal Benefits

2068. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have laid down procedure for the recovery of illegal benefits made by the drug companies;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the period within which the illegal benefit is to be worked out and recovery made?